

REMARKS

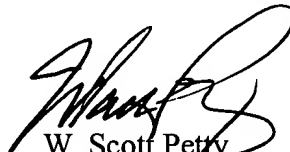
Applicant has canceled Claims 1 - 30 and added new Claims 31-65. Applicant has also amended the specification to correct typographical errors. Claims 31-65 are now pending in the present application. The independent claims are new Claims 31, 42, 52 and 61.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the above-styled patent application, as amended, is in condition for examination and requests such action. If any issues remain that may be resolved by telephone, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at 404.572.2884.

Respectfully submitted,


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K&S Docket: 10125.105001

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

[0080]A taxonomy is a division of items in two ordered groups, categories, or hierarchies. Medical information, for example, can best be present within hierarchies. In the present invention, a taxonomy is a hierarchy of concepts. For example, “procedure” is a taxonomy. All the children of “procedure” are a part of that taxonomy. The top level of a taxonomy is the root concept. The root concepts of the present invention are defined by the enterprise in which it is used. For example, the root concepts for the healthcare industry are: SNOMED RT; HCPCS 2000 (HCFA Common Procedure Coding System); ICD-10 (International Statistical Classification of Disease and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision); ICD-10 AM (International Statistical Classification of Disease and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision Australian Modification); CPT (Physicians’ Current Procedural Terminology); and ICD-9 CM (The International Classification of Diseases: 9th Revision-Clinical Modification). Users can define new taxonomies at any level below the root level. When a user defines a new taxonomy, the user does not create a new hierarchy by giving a name to a portion of an existing hierarchy. Identifying new taxonomies can optimize searching. For example, a cardiologist doing modeling solely in the area of cardiac disease could create a taxonomy with the concept “myocardial disease” as its top-level concept. This would enable searches that are restricted to this taxonomy.

[0081] FIGURE 7 depicts a flow diagram of managing taxonomies in accordance with the present invention. The creation starts in terminal 705. The user has the option to either add or remove the taxonomy in decision point [710] 720. If the user does neither, the taxonomy management flow ends in terminal 755. If the user chooses to add a taxonomy in decision point [710] 720, the user then enters the name in block [715] 725 and sets the system creation process into motion in block [720] 730. The system displays status messages in block [725] 735 during the creation process. If, however, the user chooses to remove a taxonomy in decision point [710] 720, the user selects the root-level concept in block [730] 710. The system then checks to verify that the user has selected a root-level concept in decision point [735] 715. If the user has not selected a root-level concept, the user is not allowed to proceed and is returned to block 710. If, however, the user has selected a root-level concept, the system then displays the selected root-level concept selection(s) in block 740. The user then confirms their selection(s) in block 745 and sets the system removal process into motion in block 750. The taxonomy management process ends in terminal 755.

[00106] FIGURE 10A depicts an illustrative diagram of data association in accordance with the present invention. The user commences a data association process in block 1005. This process can be performed either through GUI access in block 1010 or menu access in block 1015 [1050]. GUI access in block 1010 allows the user to work with concepts in block 1020, terms in block 1030 or relations in block 1040. For each of these objects, the user can edit (blocks 1022, 1032 and 1042, respectively), delete and confirm (blocks 1024 and 1028, 1024 and 1038, and 1044 and 1048, respectively) and modify (blocks 1026, 1036, and 1046, respectively). Menu access in block 1015 allows the user to perform data associations for microglossaries in block 1050. Microglossaries and the associated actions performed upon them will be described in greater detail in relation to FIGURE 12 herein.